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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 7th to 10th, 19th, 23rd and 28th meetings, on 9, 10, 13, 14, 21, 23 and 30 October 2003. At its 7th to 10th meetings, on 9, 10, 13 and 14 October, the Committee held a general discussion on item 108 jointly with item 109. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/58/SR.7-10, 19, 23 and 28).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2003;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/58/87-E/2003/82);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/58/125);

[1] A/58/3 (Parts I and II); for the final text see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3/Rev.1).

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(d) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (A/58/165);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/58/222);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/58/223);

(g) Letter dated 9 July 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a joint statement issued at Almaty on 5 July 2003 by the heads of State of the members of the Central Asian Cooperation Organization (A/58/131-S/2003/703);

(h) Letter dated 14 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/58/4).

4. At the 7th meeting, on 9 October, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/58/SR.7).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee engaged in a dialogue with the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in which the representatives of Italy, Austria, Pakistan, Mali and the Sudan took part (see A/C.3/58/SR.7).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.3

6. By its resolution 2003/21 of 22 July 2003, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/58/L.3.

7. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.3 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.4

9. By its resolution 2003/22 of 22 July 2003, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/58/L.4.

10. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.4 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.5

12. By its resolution 2003/20 of 22 July 2003, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/58/L.5.

13. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.5 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution III).

15. The representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.3/58/SR.23).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.6

16. By its resolution 2003/23 of 22 July 2003, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/58/L.6.

17. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement regarding financial provisions relating to the draft resolution.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.6 without a vote (see para. 32 , draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13

19. At the 19th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Rwanda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders" (A/C.3/58/L.13).

20. At its 28th meeting, on 30 October, the Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.3/58/L.16).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13 without a vote (see para. 32, draft resolution V).

22. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Rwanda made a statement; after it was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the

United States of America, Japan, Canada (also on behalf of Australia) and Italy (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) (see A/C.3/58/SR.28).

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.14

23. At the 19th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Italy, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity" (A/C.3/58/L.14).

24. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Italy orally revised it as follows:

(a) After the fifth preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph was added, reading:

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/28 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims";

(b) The fourteenth (now fifteenth) preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Recalling also* its resolution 58/... of ... 2003, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption"

was replaced by the following:

"*Welcoming* the adoption of its resolution on the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(c) In operative paragraph 9, the word "voluntary" was inserted before the words "contributions in direct support of such activities";

(d) In operative paragraph 17, the words "and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air" before the words "and the results of the treaty event" were deleted;

(e) In operative paragraph 19, the word "States" was inserted before the words "parties at its inaugural session".

25. At the same meeting, Argentina, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guatemala, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

26. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

27. At the same meeting, the representative of Italy further orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) The fifteenth preambular paragraph was further revised to read:

"*Looking forward* to the adoption of its resolution on the United Nations Convention against Corruption";

(b) In operative paragraph 21, the words "competent regional and economic organizations" were replaced by the words "competent regional economic integration organizations".

28. At the same meeting, Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, the Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mongolia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as further orally revised.

29. Also at the 23rd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.14, as orally revised (see para. 32, draft resolution VI).

30. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.3/58/SR.23).

G. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

31. At its 28th meeting, on 30 October, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the reports listed below (see para. 33):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/58/87-E/2003/82);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/58/125);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (A/58/165).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

32. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions.

Draft resolution I
International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[1] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[3]

Recalling also its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts, Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Recalling further its resolution 56/120 of 19 December 2001, on action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the imminent entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[1] and notes the number of signatures and ratifications of the three Protocols to the Convention, which is likely to lead to the expected entry into force at an early date of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

[1] Resolution 55/25, annex I.
[2] Resolution 55/25, annex II.
[3] Resolution 55/25, annex III.
[4] E/CN.15/2003/5.

supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[3]

3. *Commends* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including, in particular, the preparation of legislative guides designed to facilitate the ratification and subsequent implementation of those instruments, and invites the Centre to finalize the legislative guides and to disseminate them as widely as possible;

4. *Welcomes* the organization by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Centre and the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, of the treaty event "Focus 2003: treaties against transnational organized crime and terrorism", held at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 26 September 2003, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002, welcomes the participation of Member States in that event, and urges Member States that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, approval or accession to the Convention and the Protocols thereto, in order to ensure the widest possible participation in those instruments and thus to maximize their effectiveness;

5. *Also welcomes* the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as contributions in direct support of activities and projects of the Centre, including through contributions to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

6. *Requests* the Centre, in its capacity as secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its Protocols, to undertake all activities necessary to ensure the efficient preparation of the inaugural session of the Conference, in 2004;

7. *Also requests* the Centre, within existing regular or extrabudgetary resources, in preparing to provide services to the Conference of the Parties, as mandated, to develop a guide containing elements that would be useful to States parties in meeting their reporting requirements to the Conference of the parties and to undertake a study on the functioning of extradition and mutual legal assistance through existing mechanisms, including bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements or arrangements;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Centre with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the Centre to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

Draft resolution II
Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions relating to the prevention and suppression of terrorism, as well as Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001 and 1456 (2003) of 20 January 2003,

Recalling also its resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, in which it strongly condemned the heinous acts of terrorism of 11 September 2001, and its resolution 57/27 of 19 November 2002, in which it also condemned those in Bali and Moscow, and urgently called for international cooperation to prevent and eradicate acts of terrorism, as well as Security Council resolution 1465 (2003) of 13 February 2003, in which the Council condemned the bombing attack in Bogota on 7 February 2003,

Recalling further its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002, in which it affirmed the importance of the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat in the fulfilment of its mandate, including to prevent and combat terrorism, and in particular in strengthening international cooperation and providing technical assistance, upon request, which complements the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism,

Recalling its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, in section IV of which it approved the strengthening of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat, given that terrorism was one of the priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005,

Mindful of its resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002, on the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which includes a plan of action against terrorism,

Supporting the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance an integrated approach to combating terrorism, drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and other related forms of criminal activity,

Stressing the need for close coordination and cooperation between States, international, regional and subregional organizations and the Counter-Terrorism Committee, as well as the Centre, in preventing and combating terrorism and criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Convinced of the need, as asserted by the General Assembly and the Security Council in various resolutions, in particular Council resolution 1373 (2001), to prevent and suppress acts of terrorism, and noting with deep concern the links between terrorism and transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, money-laundering and trafficking in arms, as well as illegal transfers of nuclear, chemical and biological materials,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Austria and the Centre for the organization of the symposium on the theme "combating international terrorism: the contribution of the United Nations" held in Vienna on 3 and 4 June 2002, and taking note of the report of the Executive Director,[1]

Recalling that Member States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law and that such measures are adopted in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, as appropriate,

Noting with appreciation that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/120 of 17 December 1996 is continuing the preparation of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism[2] and of a draft international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism,[3]

1. *Encourages* the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat within its mandates in the area of preventing terrorism by providing Member States, upon request, with technical assistance, specifically to implement the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, thereby strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, working in close coordination with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Programme against Terrorism, launched by the Centre, which provides the appropriate framework for activities supporting Member States in their fight against terrorism, in particular through the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism;

3. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so to become parties to and implement the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and, where appropriate, to request assistance to that end from the Centre;

4. *Notes* the preparation of a United Nations legislative guide to the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, which was reviewed by an expert group hosted by the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy, from 3 to 5 December 2002, and invites States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism to make use of the legislative guide in their efforts to incorporate the provisions of those instruments into their national legislation;

5. *Urges* Member States to continue working together, also on a regional and bilateral basis and in close cooperation with the United Nations, to prevent and combat acts of terrorism by strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance within the framework of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1377 (2001) and 1456 (2003) and other relevant international instruments and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law;

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[1] See A/57/152 and Corr.1, A/57/152/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and A/57/152/Add.2.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/58/37), annex II.A.

[3] Ibid., annex II.B.

6. *Requests* the Centre, subject to the availability of regular or extrabudgetary resources, to prepare guidelines on technical assistance according to which the Centre, acting in areas within its competence and in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, will provide assistance related to promoting the ratification of, accession to and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and to identify concrete elements of such assistance with a view to facilitating cooperation among Member States in combating terrorism, and to submit those guidelines to Member States for their consideration;

7. *Also requests* the Centre, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds, to intensify its efforts to provide technical assistance, upon request, in preventing and combating terrorism through the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, with particular emphasis on the need to coordinate its work with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and international, regional and subregional organizations;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to donor countries that have supported, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through direct contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, the launching of the Global Programme against Terrorism, and invites all States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide technical assistance to requesting Member States, in particular for promoting the ratification of, accession to and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism;

9. *Recommends* that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in coordination with other United Nations entities, in particular the Counter-Terrorism Committee, keep under regular review the progress made by Member States in becoming parties to and implementing the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and the needs of Member States requesting technical assistance;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to organize a senior-level discussion during the thirteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on progress made with regard to the criminal justice aspects of terrorism and international cooperation and to the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and invites the Counter-Terrorism Committee and relevant international organizations to participate in that discussion;

11. *Invites* Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information on the nature of links between terrorism and other forms of crime in order to increase synergies in the delivery of technical assistance by the Centre, and requests the Secretary-General to include an analysis of such information in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution III
Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,[1]

Taking note of guideline 8, "Special measures for the protection and support of child victims of trafficking", contained in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[2]

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[3] and noting the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[4]

Recalling also International Labour Organization Convention No. 182 of 1999, concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, which prohibits forced or obligatory labour of all people under the age of eighteen,

Recalling further paragraphs 25 and 27 of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[5]

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[6] and in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[7]

Condemning trafficking in persons as an abhorrent form of modern-day slavery and as an act that is contrary to universal human rights,

Decrying the treatment of human beings as commodities bartered, bought or sold by traffickers, in particular exploiters,

Deeply concerned at the worldwide occurrence of trafficking in persons for the purpose of exploitation of all kinds by transnational organized criminal groups, many of which are also involved in other forms of illegal activity, including trafficking in firearms, money-laundering, drug trafficking and corruption,

Profoundly alarmed by the fact that trafficking in persons is a growing and profitable trade in most parts of the world, aggravated by, inter alia, poverty, armed conflict, inadequate social and economic conditions and demand in the illicit labour and sex markets,

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[1] Resolution 40/34, annex.
[2] E/2002/68/Add.1.
[3] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[4] Resolution 54/263, annex II.
[5] Resolution 55/59, annex.
[6] Resolution 55/25, annex I.
[7] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

Expressing dismay at the ability of criminal networks to avoid punishment while preying on the vulnerabilities of their victims,

Noting the distinctions and interlinkages between the two criminal behaviours of trafficking in persons, as set forth in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of smuggling of migrants, as set forth in the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[8]

Convinced of the urgent need for broad and concerted international cooperation among all Member States, employing a multidisciplinary, balanced and global approach, including adequate technical assistance, in order to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

Convinced also that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can play a role in reducing existing and future opportunities for victimization in the field of trafficking and in assisting Governments in promoting protection of victims through comprehensive and non-stigmatizing social and appropriate economic assistance to victims, including in the areas of health, education, housing and employment,

Welcoming efforts of Member States, in particular countries of origin, transit and destination, to create awareness among civil society concerning the seriousness of the crime of trafficking and of its various forms, as well as the role of the public in preventing victimization and assisting victims of trafficking,

Noting the thematic discussion on trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, held by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session,

1. *Urges* Member States to employ a comprehensive approach to combating trafficking in persons, incorporating law enforcement efforts and, where appropriate, the confiscation and seizure of the proceeds of trafficking, protection of victims and preventive measures, including measures against activities that draw profit from the exploitation of victims of trafficking;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with a view to preventing trafficking in persons, especially for the purpose of sexual exploitation, through:

(a) Improved technical cooperation to strengthen local and national institutions aimed at preventing trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in countries of origin;

(b) Information campaigns on the techniques and methods of traffickers, programmes of education aimed at prospective targets, as well as vocational training in social skills and assistance in the reintegration of victims of trafficking into society;

(c) Focusing on post-conflict regions where patterns of human trafficking are emerging as a new phenomenon and incorporating anti-trafficking measures into early intervention;

[8] Resolution 55/25, annex III.

3. *Recognizes* that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential to effectively counter the threat of trafficking in persons;

4. *Urges* Member States to take measures to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[6] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[7] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[4] and to implement those instruments by, inter alia:

(a) Criminalizing trafficking in persons;

(b) Promoting cooperation among law enforcement authorities in combating trafficking in persons;

(c) Establishing the offence of trafficking in persons as a predicate offence for money-laundering offences;

5. *Invites* Member States to adopt measures, in accordance with their domestic law and capacity, inter alia:

(a) To fight sexual exploitation with a view to abolishing it, by prosecuting and punishing those who engage in that activity;

(b) To raise awareness, especially through training, among criminal justice officials and others as appropriate of the needs of victims of trafficking and of the crucial role of victims in detecting and prosecuting this crime by, inter alia:

(i) Investigation of all cases reported by victims, prevention of further victimization and in general treatment of victims with respect;

(ii) Treatment of victims and witnesses with sensitivity throughout criminal judicial proceedings, in accordance with articles 24 and 25 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and article 6, paragraph 2, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

6. *Also invites* Member States to adopt measures, in accordance with their domestic law and capacity, inter alia:

(a) To provide assistance and protection to victims of trafficking in persons, including measures to permit victims of trafficking to remain in their territory temporarily or permanently, as appropriate;

(b) To promote the legislative and other measures necessary to establish a wide range of assistance, including legal, psychological, medical and social assistance and, if appropriate, compensation or restitution, to the actual victims of trafficking, subject to the determination of the existence of victimization;

(c) To provide humane treatment for all victims of trafficking, taking into account their age, gender and particular needs, in accordance with article 6, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

(d) To assist in the reintegration of victims of trafficking into society;

7. *Further invites* Member States, as appropriate, to develop guidelines for the protection of victims of trafficking before, during and after criminal proceedings;

8. *Urges* Member States to ensure that measures taken against trafficking in persons, especially women and children, are consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination and that they respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims;

9. *Invites* Member States to set up mechanisms for coordination and collaboration between governmental and non-governmental organizations with a view to responding to the immediate needs of victims of trafficking;

10. *Also invites* Member States to allocate appropriate resources for victim services, public awareness campaigns and law enforcement activities directed at eliminating trafficking and exploitation and to foster international cooperation, including adequate technical assistance and capacity-building programmes, to improve the ability of Member States to take effective measures against trafficking in persons;

11. *Encourages* Member States to examine the role of the exploitation of the prostitution of others in encouraging trafficking in persons;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt legislative or other measures to reduce the demand that fosters all forms of trafficking in persons, including by cooperating with non-governmental organizations and civil society and by raising public awareness of how sexual and other forms of exploitation degrade their victims and the related risks of trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

13. *Further encourages* Member States to take measures, including raising public awareness, to discourage, especially among men, the demand that fosters sexual exploitation, in accordance with article 9, paragraph 5, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

14. *Encourages* Member States to target the link, where appropriate, between trafficking in persons for purposes of sexual and other forms of exploitation and other types of crime;

15. *Encourages* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat to continue its close cooperation and coordination with relevant international and regional organizations in this area;

16. *Encourages* Member States to make voluntary contributions to further strengthen and support the Centre and its Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, in particular in the area of technical assistance activities;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution IV
Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and its resolution 57/171 of 18 December 2002 on preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December 1950 and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Eleventh Congress is to be held in 2005,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for and the new format of the United Nations congresses, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of resolution 56/119, as well as paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, annexed to resolution 46/152,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recalling that, in its resolution 57/171, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its twelfth session, to finalize the programme for the Eleventh Congress and to make its final recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 57/171, it decided that the main theme of the Eleventh Congress should be "Synergies and responses: strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal justice",

Recalling further its resolution 57/170 of 18 December 2002 on the follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[1]

Stressing the importance of undertaking all the preparatory activities for the Eleventh Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Notes* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

2. *Decides* to hold the Eleventh Congress from 18 to 25 April 2005, with pre-congress consultations to be held on 18 April 2005;

3. *Decides also* that the high-level segment of the Eleventh Congress shall be held during the last three days of the Congress in order to allow heads of State or

[1] Resolution 56/261, annex.
[2] A/58/87-E/2003/82.

Government or government ministers to focus on the main substantive agenda items of the Congress;

4. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for the Eleventh Congress, finalized by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session:

1. Opening of the Congress.

2. Organizational matters.

3. Effective measures to combat transnational organized crime.

4. International cooperation against terrorism and links between terrorism and other criminal activities in the context of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

5. Corruption: threats and trends in the twenty-first century.

6. Economic and financial crimes: challenges to sustainable development.

7. Making standards work: fifty years of standard-setting in crime prevention and criminal justice.

8. Adoption of the report of the Congress.

5. *Decides* that the following issues shall be considered by workshops within the framework of the Eleventh Congress:

(a) Enhancing international law enforcement cooperation, including extradition measures;

(b) Enhancing criminal justice reform, including restorative justice;

(c) Strategies and best practices for crime prevention, in particular in relation to urban crime and youth at risk;

(d) Measures to combat terrorism, with reference to the relevant international conventions and protocols;

(e) Measures to combat economic crime, including money-laundering;

(f) Measures to combat computer-related crime;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress;

7. *Urges* the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the workshop topics of the Eleventh Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Congress and the Commission at its fourteenth session;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat and to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and

Criminal Justice Programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the discussion guide for the workshops, requested in paragraph 6 above, consideration of technical cooperation ideas, projects and documents related to enhancing bilateral and multilateral efforts in technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

10. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops;

11. *Approves* the plan for documentation for the Eleventh Congress, as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on preparations for the Congress,[3] taking into account the recommendations of the Commission related thereto;

12. *Invites* Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Eleventh Congress about their activities with a view to the implementation of the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[1] as guidance for the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress and at the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

14. *Encourages* Governments to undertake preparations for the Eleventh Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization of and follow-up to the workshops;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide resources, as required, in accordance with established United Nations budgetary practice and within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, in order to ensure a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Eleventh Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

16. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Eleventh Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress and to participate in thematic interactive round tables;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Eleventh Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;

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[3] Ibid., para. 69.

18. *Again encourages* the relevant specialized agencies, United Nations programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the Centre for International Crime Prevention in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Eleventh Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

20. *Requests* the Commission to accord sufficient time at its thirteenth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress, to finalize in good time all the necessary organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirteenth session.

Draft resolution V
United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/172 of 18 December 2002 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

[1] A/58/223.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VI
Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/21 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/22 of 22 July 2003 on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/24 of 22 July 2003 on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, including the management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/28 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and rule of law and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including organized crime, corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes, money-laundering, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and the criminal misuse of information technologies, as well as criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering

[1] Resolution 55/25.

terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and noting in this context the ongoing work of the Bali and Puebla processes,[2]

Recognizing existing efforts that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating corruption, and noting the outcome of the Third Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity, held at Seoul from 28 to 31 May 2003,

Acknowledging the role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and their development, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/30 of 22 July 2003,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations conventions and other legal instruments and policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Looking forward to the adoption of its resolution on the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[3]

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[4]

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[2] Second Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 28 to 30 April 2003; and the eighth Regional Conference on Migration, held at Cancún, Mexico, on 29 and 30 May 2003, as part of the Puebla Process.

[3] Resolution 58/4.

[4] Resolution 55/59, annex.

Recalling the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[5]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/25 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation, technical assistance and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict,

Appreciating the funding provided by certain Member States in 2002 and 2003 that has permitted the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its capacity to execute an increased number of projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/173;[6]

2. *Affirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular in strengthening international cooperation and providing technical assistance, upon request, which complements the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality, and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

4. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems;

6. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the global programmes addressing the trafficking in human beings, corruption, organized crime and terrorism, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the visibility of those programmes

[5] Resolution 56/261, annex.

[6] A/58/222.

and to strengthen the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice;

7. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist, in particular, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict;

8. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures which complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

9. *Invites* all States to support the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the measures outlined in the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century;

10. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

11. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction, also in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/31 of 22 July 2003 on the functioning of the Commission;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the decision to organize a senior-level discussion during the thirteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on progress made with regard to the criminal justice aspects of terrorism and international conventions and protocols related to terrorism;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

15. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, and other

international funding agencies to increase their interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort, and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption, are considered in their sustainable development agenda, and that the expertise of the Office in activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption and promotion of the rule of law is fully utilized;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes and other relevant bodies;

17. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the forthcoming entry into force of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the results of the treaty event "Focus 2003: treaties against transnational organized crime and terrorism", organized by the Secretary-General in New York from 23 to 26 September 2003;

18. *Emphasizes* the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the remaining Protocols to the Convention;

19. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to ratify, or accede to, as soon as possible, the Convention so as to participate in the conference of the States parties at its inaugural session, to be held at Vienna from 28 June to 9 July 2004;

20. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

21. *Welcomes* the successful outcome of the negotiations of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and invites States and competent regional economic integration organizations to participate in the high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the Convention, to be held at Mérida, Mexico, from 9 to 11 December 2003, and urges them to take all necessary measures to ratify the Convention as soon as possible;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

23. *Encourages* States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in that Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

33. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.[3]

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[1] A/58/87-E/2003/82.
[2] A/58/125.
[3] A/58/165.